

THE VVindie Yeare.

Shewing

Many strange Accidents that happened,
both on the Land, and at Sea, by reason of
the winde and weather.

With

A particular relation of that which happened at Great CHART in Kent.

Richard And *Grosvenor*

Also how a Woman was found in the water, with
a sucking Child at her brest, with the nipple in it
mouth, both drowned; with many other lamentable things worthy to be read,
and remembered.

L O N D O N.

Printed by G. Eld. for Arthur Iohnson, dwelling at the
signe of the white Horse in Pauls Church-yard neere
the great North-dore. 1613.

THE
Vindictive Year

Shewing

Many strange Accidents that have
happened on the Land, and in the Sea, by reason of
the winds and weather.

And

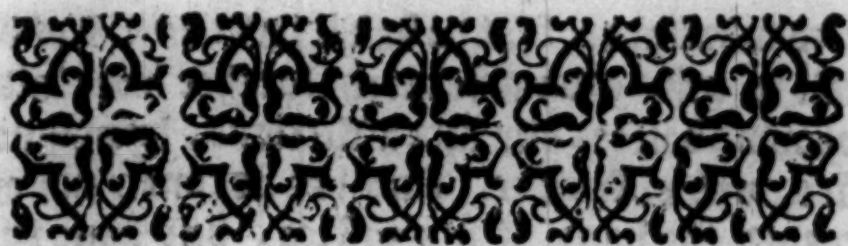
A particular relation of that which hap-
pened at Great Cumbert in Kent.

And

Also how a Woman was found in the water, with
a sucking Child in her arms, the month being
months before she was delivered, and the
child was found to be dead, and the
woman was found to be dead.

L O N D O N

Printed by G. E. for Andrew Baskin, dwelling at the
Sign of the White Horse in Finsbury Church-yard near
the great North-door, 1685.



Certaine strange Accidents,
happening by the late terri-
 ble Tempests of winde
and weather.

Such as haue a perfect fee-
 ling of the burthen of sinne,
 and the punishments that
 are due for the same, shall
 little or nothing at all e-
 steme much of the punish-
 ment of their bodies or
 goods. By which they may bee drawne to re-
 dresse the former, and prevent their future bad
 courses. For there is no imposition of any
 distastful, or contrarious occurrences that are
 permitted to happen to Man but are fore-run-
 ners of Gods secret loue vnto vs, to reclaime vs
 from vice, and to conforme vs to vertue.

And because the consideration of that which
 our finnes haue deserved, is a forcible motiue
 to digest with patience any Crosses, or misfe-
 ries

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ries whatsoeuer that do befall vnto vs : Let vs call to minde what he might further haue laide vpon vs besides our late afflictions, by plague, fire, water, frost &c. And yet not onely not exceeded the bond of his iustice, but haue still shewed himselfe of infinite mercie.

It is a generall Axiome, and an approued verity ratified by the consent of all Diuines; that as God rewardeth aboue our deserts, and in his eternall recompence farre exceedeth the value of anie workes wee can doe: So on the other side, hee doth chastice farre vnderneath the rate of our misdeedes, (his infinite iustice considered) his greatest punishment amounteth not to the hainousnesse of the least of our sinnes. For the iniurie that we daily offer to so infinite a Maiesty, in so opprobrious and despitefull manner (being so farre inferiour, and so highly beholding vnto him) that (as much as in vs lieth) wee quite defeate God of his honour, and peild it to that wherein wee sinne against him. This iniury (I say) is so great, that though God should double and trouble all punishments of sinne, and lay them on sinners backs for their severall offences; yet might hee iustly double them of new, and as often as hee thought good, without any iniury to the offenders; yea and punishing far lesse then their deserts. Misfortunes hapning by any of the foure Elements, are not slightly to bee accounted, because their accidents seldome fall out alone, but are ominous foregoers of worse evils
to

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to follow. The circle of misery, which hath for many yeeres been drawne about vs, is large; the lines of it are not yet closed; neither can the perfect content of it bee fully knowne, till it shall please that hand (that first molded the globe of the world, and which setteth down in numbers, and proportion, the state of kingdoms) to throw away the rod, that it hath so long held ouer vs, to correct, or (rather) to draw blood of vs.

The elements of Earth, Water, Ayre, and Fire, haue severally commenced warre against vs. The Ayre hath breathed forth contagious, and pestiferous fumes to choake vs: She hath burst open the clouds of infection, and poured plagues and sicknesses vpon our heads.

The Water hath (like Egyptian Grasshoppers) couered our corne-feldes, and eaten vp the fruits of the earth: whilest the Earth by that misery hath closed vp the wombe, and promised nothing (that hath alwaies beene so plentiull to her children) but barrennesse, and infertility.

The Fire hath had his severall daies of triumph to increase our sorrow in vs, as it hath had in other countries, as in burning Constantinople by the descending therof from the Element in the time of Arcadius: and destroying a great part of Rome walls, and many parts of the same City and other places by sodaine fires. So that al that is aboue vs, and all that is vnder our feet haue conspired to work our overthrow.

Those creatures, which in the first & great parliament

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liament of our creation, were appointed to bee our comforters, are now set forth, and armed with weapons from heauen to bee our destroyers. The causes of this celestiall quarrell with vs, are writ vpon euery mans forehead: the defiance is in our lips, the maintenance of it in our hearts, the end of it will be dangerous wounds in our soules.

There is yet a meanes to be made
for reconcilement.

The Heire apparant to the King of heauen and earth, goes betweene his Father and vs to worke our peace and attonement: It may easily be effected and brought to passe, if wee would vtterly shake off a bad and base company of vgly and detestable sinnes, that hang vpon euerie one of vs: If wee doe not, let vs be assured that threathnings will bee turned into beatings, beating into blowes that shall not be endured, and blowes to the taking away our liues for euer. The Ayre will in sulphurous flakes drop downe all on fire, and that fire bring the world to a consumption neuer to be restored. The Earth that doth now but begin to shrink by her nerues, and to hide a handfull of her blessings, will open her veines to swallow by the memory of them. And the Water that now goes about but to drowne a few, will bee the instrument of generall shipwracks.

The

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The world (as a Tree) hath beene manie thousand yeeres in growing, it hath had many summers to flourish in, & many winters to make it wither: The farther it growes into age, the farther it goes into weaknes: it is lesse fruitful in goodnes, it more loseth the fresh ayre, and sun-beams of heauen. Although the two imperiall grafts of this our great Island of Brittain, doe now growe proper in one Stem, and make one of the fairest and fairest-spreading branches to this tall and stately Cedar (the world:) yet hath many earthquakes of the deep vengeance shaken it in the foundation: Many storms haue fallen vpon the head of it; the are of his sharpe indignation (that cutteth downe the sturdy Dukes of this world more easily then willowes, and throwes them into fire) hath beene oft laide to the rote of it.

One of the top-branches of this our Monarchy (being laden with Nations, and haring climbed vp in flourishing beautie almost to the height of twenty yeeres) is of late topped off and laide vpon the earth, which yet men mourneth at the burthen. Howbeit, what reckoning loouer we are behind with, for sins past, or how much wee are run out (for the present) in our accounts to heauen, safe it is that many fearefull Auditors haue been appointed and vntill we can answer it the better, we are daily threatened to be laid by for euer.

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First were wee punished in our bodies by noysome and blcerous diseases, the lashes which that bountifull executioner of the Diuine Justice (the Plague) printed on our flesh, are yet plainely to bee seene: The violence of it was such as cannot easilie be forgotten. For the darts thereof strooke downe people in such numbers, that houses were emptied to fill graues, and manie Townes (for want of the liuing) were left wholly desolate.

Not long after, the same very Townes (being againe replenished) haue lost many of their Inhabitants, which now lie deepe buried in the gulphes of waters. His rod cannot yet terrifie vs, or worke a remorse in vs, or compunction of spirit: Wee hath therefore layde a new fatherly correction vpon vs to make vs forsake our sinnes, and to perswade vs to repentance by the extremitie of such windes, and weather this winter so violent and fierce (for the time) and the Tempests so long continued, that the like hath not been heard of in mans memorie. The relation of some particulars whereof I haue here set downe: The chiefe and farthest point which my intencion aimeth at in this, being only to appresse the horror of the late inheard of windes and weather, that hath fallen vpon our Countrey, to the end that descending into our selues, wee may giue thanks to that hand of mercie, which Heauen hath stretched ouer

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ouer vs, in such such fatherly warnings, and admonitions to allure vs, to looke into our selues betimes, leaſt the biols of his heauier wrath bee ſoainely poured downe vpon vs.

Seauen, or eight hundreth dead Carkases, ſome floating on the ſeas, betwene the coaſts of Calice, & Newport in Flanders by occaſion of late Tempeſts.

The true ſhapes of ſuch prodigious birthes as theſe are, cannot at firſt bee perfectly diſcouered: The body of this lies yet (ſome part of it) in the wombe, and till the Earth bee fully deliuered of the burthen of Waters, you cannot behold the true and lively portraiture of this miſhapen creature, you ſhall notwithstanding looke vpon ſo much as Time, and many peoples ſorowes (meeting with their loſſes) haue brought forth: and this it is. The Sea that (for limits) is boundleſſe, for depth not eaſie to bee ſounded, and which (for many hard paſſages) can ſcarce exactly bee diſcouered, hath beene of late beaten by the violence of terrible and impetuous ſtormes, and tempeſts, that not onely manie

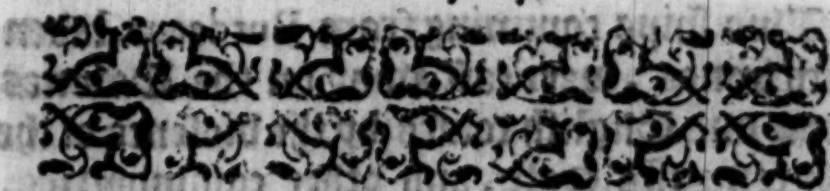
The windy yeere.

vessels haue beene torne in peeces, and split by
on rocks and quicksands, and haue had the
lamentable feeling of fearefull; and sodaine
shipwracks, by occasions thereof; but manie
also haue lost their liues (both men, women,
and children) in the same Tragedie: Their
dead bodies being by the windes drinen into
many seuerall angles, and corners of the sea,
and cast vpon many parts of the Sea-coasts,
as that vpon France, where is credibly repor-
ted that betweene the coasts of Calice in
France, and Deluport in Flaunders, aboue
saueu or eight hundred dead carcases haue
been taken by, whom the maine armie of wa-
ters had formerly deuoured, beinge forced
therevnto by the strength, and violence of the
windes and tempests.

What a number of graues, must haue been
opened if all these had had their rites of buri-
all: How many fathers for children, wiues
for husbands, souses and daughters for Pa-
rents, and kinsfolkes for friends should heere
haue wept, if the deade had been payde their
due lamentations.

Manie

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Many cast away euen before the towne of Yarmouth.

A Ship of three-score tunne, wel laden, and with the sailes hoised, was cast away before Yarmouth a little before Christmas last by the outragiousnesse of the winds, and water, when the lamentable shrikes and cries of the people, that were in the same, were heard to the towne it selfe, at which sodaine alarum giuen by this tempest, the townsmen might come forth of their houses, and behold this sad and grieuous spectacle, to their much astonishment and amazement. But were no way able to force them from their dangers, although they were sharers with them in griefe for their misfortunes.

Such wares and marchandise haue beene scene swimming vpon the seas, wherewith the ships (cast away by the extremity of weather) haue bin fraught. Yet these tempests, as they haue beene ill windes to blow many vpon the Rockes of ruine, and pouerty, So haue they blowne some to profit: for some meete with the same goods, that they finde so swimming, and goe richly away loaden with them: whosoever haue lost their marchandise, some are sure to make a sauing voyage by it.

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Two ships comming from Burdeaux, laden with wines, were cast away on the Downes upon our English coasts, by the violence of the late tempests. Salt, and other commodities, haue bene melted by the same and resolved into salt waters, which hath much enhaunced their prizes, and seueral rates.

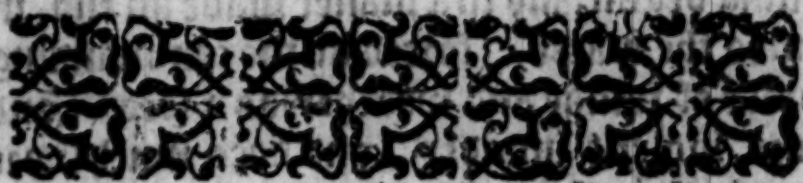
New-castle ships haue bene so scattered, and beate back by the late windes and weather, that such as haue escaped ship-wrack haue yet bene feareful to make their passages to London with their sea-coales, for avoiding the danger both of their liues and goods. So that the price thereof is thereby kept high, and the poorer sort want the comfort, that they were formerly accustomed to haue by the same.

As there haue bene unreconerable harmes done by sea, so the cattel that haue bene utterly destroyed by the Land-wrack are innumerable. None knowes the losse (for the present) but the owners of them. But the whole land will (I feare) feele the smart. Many houses haue bin much weakened and undermined by the waters, and dangerously also shaken with the winds. So that the perill, that this terrible tempest brought with it, wrought much dread in the hearts of all that were within the sight or hearing of the same, but the sodaine, and strange cruelty thereof bred much greater terror, and amazement. Men that were going to their labours, were compelled (seeing two so
dread

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Dreadfull enemies approaching, as is the wind and the water, for of late it rained continually to the backs to their houses, and before they could enter, they might perceiue their liues endangered, and part of their houses borne away with the violent gusts of the sodaine windes.

Much hurt hath beene done both to corne & hey in their mowes, by being borne, and carried away by the late prodigious tempests of windes and water, which threatens a dearth (for our sinnes) which God of his mercy diuert from vs.



Many cast away neere the coast of
Douer and Sandwich, and Way-
borne Hope in Norfolk.

NO let other Countreies insult ouer this of Kent (by reason of the late accident) as if their robes of seeming puritie (invented by the Deuil, and his tourney-men) were a defence or armour of proofe against the Judgements of heauen: They stand all within one distance, This late and feareful inundation of water, and outrageous, and stormy Tempests of weather makes it apparant.

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For euen in this present month, the chiefe violence of winter, being (as many by rural observations haue quoted) almost spent, in the Country of Norfolk, in a place called Marchland, happened such sodaine and strange overflowings of waters, by reason of the late rain, and Tempests, as that they were accompanied with much damage, and no little danger.

The Fennes and Marshes beeing stozed with cattle, it is not credible what haue the rot made among sheepe, by reason of the wetnesse of weather, for it is reported that they died there in great abundance: The rot hauing begun, and in a maner made an end, in comes the water, (forced by the commanding power of winde and weather) as a second, and more violent invader, and does much more hurt, both in the destroying of cattell, and the taking away of many Mens liues, and that aswel vpon the Land, as nere the coast of Dover, and Sandwich, and so to Weyborne Hope in Norfolk, and other places.

Many Carriers haue miscarried and bene put to shrewd plunges in their iournies, by reason of the late fiercenesse of weather: some haue lost their horses, some haue had their packs drowned: Some haue lost their iournies (not daring to tranel) and some (more venturous) haue hardly escaped with safeguard of their liues.

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A Ship cast away comming
from New-castle, and all
the Passengers in it but
the Maister.

Amongst a number of most strange shapes
of danger that this monstrous birth of
Winds and Waters haue brought forth, I will
not omit this, wherein the wife lost the husband,
the seruant the maister, and the childzen their
parents: and were all parted one from another
in this storme of Gods feareful displeasure.

For a ship comming laden from New-castle
hauing both her owne people, and other pas-
sengers in it: felt such rough, and furious
windes, that the seas were therby caused to be-
come very boisterous, and the waues thereof
grew to be so great, and to arise so high that
many times they were ready to ouerwhelme
the ship: But the maisters care (or rather) the
soze labour, and hearty prayers vnto God of
him, and the rest in the shippe, preserved it, till
they came within kenne of some towne in
Norfolke, where the windes growing to bee
stronger, the waues greater, and euery one

C

ouer

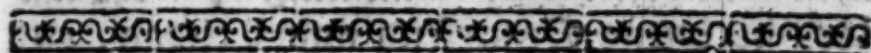
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ouer toyl'd with soze labour, they were all drownded, and felt the fury of that merciless Element (the water). Onely the maister escaped, and that with such hardnesse and difficulty, as the report would hardly winne beleefe, but that he him-selfe liues to make good the relation.

After hee had bene twice vnder the water in most imminent peril and danger of death, as he was struggling with the waters for safegard of his life, at last by Gods helpe and prouidence he tooke hold of the mayne-mast and with his knife (which he gat out) he made shift to cut certaine cords, and lines, and got to the top of the mast, and there tied him-selfe fast with the same, for feare least the violence and strength of the windes, and the fiercenesse and extremity of rayne should blowe, or carry him off, into the sea. In this perplered, and desperate estate and condition stood this man of misery for the space of eight and forty howers both in that wind and raine, till hee was releued by a man of war (a Hollander) that came towards him by Gods appointment who did him much kindnesse and mercy, and sent his ship-boate for him, and comforted him in the best manner, that either the place or his prouision would afford. Neuer the lesse he was so beaten with wind and weather that his body was swolne as big as two bodies, and euery lim and part of him was so disfigured, & had so lost their old accustomed shapes, that when the
Hollander

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Hollander set him a shoare, (for he left him not till he brought him to some of his acquaintance) he was altogether unknowne of any : nay his owne wife knew him not. But when by further knowlegde, and conference they perceaued that the rest were all drowned, and he onely left aliuie to tel vnto the world how mercifully God had dealt with him, they all cryed, praised bee the name of the Lord, praised be his name for this wonderfull, and happie deliuerance.



A woman and a child taken vp drowned, with the womans nipple in the childs mouth.

Amongst many others that haue beene cast away by these late extremities of weather it is a thing that giues not the least cause of lamentation, that a woman was taken vp drowned, with a little child at her brest, hauing her nipple in the mouth, who in her motherly piety and pittie, (while they were both aliuie) was giuing the child sucke, that could not other wise be kept quiet, being so tossed and beaten with the waues of the water, but both they and others, beeing cast away by the winds and waters mercilesse outrages, in the same manner as (it seemed) they did sincke, they were taken vp. And the same hath beene often

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observed by others, that what they haue held in their hands (or other wise) falling into the water, the same they haue kept in like sort, at their rising vp.

Many other casualties and dangers haue beene occasioned by the late tempestes. A Maypole in East-Smith-feld was by the late windes blowne downe by the bottom, and falling vpon a house did greatly indanger a womans life, as she lay in her bed. Many dead men haue beene scene swimming vpon the waters betwene Grauesend and London, and their hats, and cloakes carried too, and fro with the tides. A great barge laden with faggotts, billets and timber was cast away nere London bridge in a storme of wind, and her lading was scene swimming vp and downe vpon the Thames.

Neither did the water thus confine his tyranny, but ioyning with the windes, they blew both men and horse from of certaine bridges, as they were traueelling, whereof some were drowned, some hardly escaped, and were taken vp alicke. Many trees haue beene blowne vp by the roots, many rent and torne in sunder: many houses and chimnies and tops of Churches haue beene blowne downe, and falling vpon men and cattle haue both hurt some, and kild others. God grant that (for lacke of our repentance) there ensue no second misery vpon this, worse to our kingdome then this late punishment of windes and waters: For in this
gen.

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gentle correction he doth but call vs vnto him, and goeth about to make vs for-sake our exorbitant courses: and when wee either looke vp to heauen, or downe to earth, or on the ayre, fire or water about vs, and remember how terrible they haue bene to other Nations, how can wee but muse and praise the mildnesse of our heauenly maker, that (being guilty of the like sins) he yet relenteth the heavy hand of his Justice, and layeth so easie a burthen vpon vs, to warne vs to amend our liues, which God grant, for his Sonne Christ his sake, we may doe: That after the stormy tempests of this world wee may attaine the place where neither the terror of thunder, winds, stormes, or tempests can affright vs, nor the irruption or inundation of waters ouerwhelme vs, nor the filth or corruption of our contagious sent or saours can any way choake, or annoy vs.



Certaine hurts done at Great
Chart in Kent, the Sunday after
Christmas-day last, by the Tem-
pest of Windes.

If we would but consider the miseries of the
estates of our bodies. As hunger, thirst,
nakednes

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nakednesse, deformitie, sicknesse and mortality,
The troubles of our minde, as phantasies
feares, perplexities, anguishes & diuers imper-
fections: or the general scourges & innumerable
hazards & calamities, as also al other encombrā-
ces that are incident vnto this life: wee should
finde them so many in number, so grieuous in
quality, and so ordinary in experyence that
who so wayeth them as hee ought may well
thinke them to be punishment's for sinne, and
estēme them as gentle motiues to drawe vs to
amendment.

Amongst the other examples of Gods Jus-
tice for our wickednesse, whereby many places
haue felt the wrath of his displeasure, Let this
accident (because it is worthy note for the ex-
ample, and may be a warning to many other
places) not be had in least estimation: for the
great father of nations, will keepe vs vnder
his winge if we follow the Phisicke of spiritu-
all counsell: he is loath to chide, and more loath
to strike vs: but if like foolish haire-brained
chil dren, we prouoke him too often and too
much to anger, he wil take by his Triple mace
of hot vengeance, and bruse vs in peeces with
the same, or other wise by some outward e-
uidence giue vs a sensible and feeling tast of
his iust indignation against vs, as hee did
vnto them of Great Charte in Kent, where
the Sunday after Christmas day there fell
such a sodaine storme of haile and rayne, and
there a rose and came into the Church thereof
euen

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even at Service time, such a filthy and contagious stench. That tenne men, were presently stroaken dead for the time, and many were blasted whereof one died out-right with the same.

Besides there fell such a fearefull lightning and such a terrible Tempest of wind and weather that it put the parishioners, and other people there present, into such a distraction of minds and condition (hearing the bells in the Steeple to iangle, and strike together, and the Church Steeple it selfe to bee rent with the wynds, and toorne in peeces in diuers places) that they thought, that to be the longest and latest time appointed from Heauen, to giue end to all their miseries.

And heere occasion is giuen to speake somewhat of the causes why these punishments are inflicted vpon vs: For suppose that the pleasures of this world, and the state of our liues were such, that they rather invited vs to comfort then to sorrow: yet if we consider what the course of our life hath bin, what our sinnes are, and what punishment we haue thereby deserved: we shall thinke God to deale most mildly with vs, and be toyful of these afflictions, which be allotted vnto vs in lieu of fare more tolerable chastisements. And comparing these, with the afflictions, sent vpon other nations and countries, we haue iust cause to account them but as fauorable and fatherly corrections.

Let

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Let vs therefore see, how the whole world hath conspired to the iust punishment of such as haue dwelt in their sinnes, and fallen to the Apostacy of goodnes.

And first to begin with the earth, what a terrible instrument of Gods Justice hath this element beene. All Achaya was so strangely shaken with an Earth-quake, that Brura, and another citty were swallowed vp by the same. Another hapned in Traians time, which in Asia ouerthrew foure citties; in Greece two, and three others in Galatia. In the ninth yeare of Titus, and Vespasian, three citties of Cyprus were destroyed by the like accident.

I will not speake of the horrible breach and gaping of the earth, that happened in Rome, out of which steamed so intollerable a stench, that the very birds that flew ouer it fell downe dead; which by no other means could bee closed vp, but by the deuouring of a man that voluntarily leaped into it. I omit diuers other wonderful calamities, which the earth (by Gods permission) hath occasioned, to giue vs to vnderstand, that we ought not so much to maruell at this our late afflictions, as muse at Gods mercy, that we being atainted with the like crimes, are not swallowed vp with our families, goods, and houses, as the sinners haue beene of former Ages.

Neither haue fewer verations hapned by the water. For to say nothing of Noah his flood, that left the world no more but eight persons al'ue

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aliue, destroying Cities, Townes, Ven, and
Beasts: There haue also since that time hap-
pened other inundations, though not so ge-
nerall as that, yet doubtlesse such as testified
Gods deepe hatred against sinne. Of Ogygi-
us flood, we read that it wasted almost all
Achaia. Deucalions flood consumed greatest
part of Thessaly. And Diodorus writeth of an
Island in Egypt called Pharos, that was al-
together couered, & drowned, with a strange
irruption of waters. I need not reckon by
the ouerflowing of Riuers (euen amongst vs
in late daies) or of little brookes, that by con-
tinuall raine haue swelled so high, that they
haue drowned and destroyed many townes,
spoiled corne, and cattle, and left behind them
most ruefull monuments of Gods deserved
indignation. Let vs a little continue this
contemplation, & see by how many and diuers
alterations the ayre hath bin a meane to cha-
stise mens iniquities. What wracks and ha-
uoke haue bin made by stormes, & tempests?
What terrible, and frightfull casualties by
thunder and lightning: What strange morta-
lity by pestiferous vapours, and exhalations,
corrupting, and infecting the ayre, & breeding
infinit diseases, and alterations in mens bo-
dies, as is partly to be discerned in this late
occurrent of Chanc in Kent aforesaid. Eusebius
writeth that Aethiopia was so pestered with
infectious diseases, that it was almost brought
to vtter desolation.

D

Rome

The windy yeere.

Rome in the Consulship of Quintus Sertorius was so consumed for the space of two yeeres together by the meanes of infectious winde, that all the inhabitants were either dead, or by extreame leanneſſe left in as good as dead termes.

If wee conſider what deſolate effects the fire hath wrought, we ſhall finde them no leſſe feareful arguments of Gods Juſtice, then the reſt before touched. For to omit the ordinary casualties whereby many townes, and Cities haue bene, by Gods permiſſion, utterly consumed euen amongſt vs. I will onely ſet downe ſome other extraordinary and notorious declarations of Gods puniſhments of ſinne, ſhewed by terrible fires in other parts.

A place called Ager Galenus in Italy felt the fury of this fierce aſſaulter, for with a ſodaine breach and opening of the earth, there burſt out a moſt horrible flame, burning continually for three daies, and three nights, turning many Acres of ground into Aſhes, not ſparing ſo much as the very roots of the Trees.

How often hath Mount Etna in Sicily, not onely belched out huge flakes and globes of fire, throwing them far on euery ſide, to the ruine & conſumption of cattle, corne, townes, and villages, but alſo burſt out with whole
clouds

The windy yeere.

clouds of fire, which turning all things, where they passed, into ashes, haue both terrified with their horrible sight, and smoake, and made a most lamentable waste and spoile, to the inhabitants losse, and vtter vndoying.

This scourge hath the Citie Catania, felt so grieuously (and that more then once) that all the houses thereof being couered, and oppressed with heapes of burning ashes; the Romans were contented to release tenne yeeres tribute, to repaire the inestimable damages of one such irruption.

And to passe from heat to colde (besides the extremitie of great frosts, wherewith these parts haue beene lately pinched) we read that foure thousand souldiers, who at the siege of Asculum fled from Pompeius, were vpon the top of a Mountaine frozen so stiffe that standing there in the Sunne, with their eyes open and their teeth bare, no man could otherwise perceiue they were dead, but only by want of motion.

Which prodigious and fearefull examples (aswell abroad as at home) ought to put vs in mind of Gods singular mercy towards vs, that hee neither wanting the like abundance of fire, colde, &c. nor the like abhormination of sinnes, no lesse worthy to bee in the same manner punished; hee is contented notwithstanding, to abate our deserved

The windy yeere.

hise and with his fatherly signes, and tokens of his pittie (such as these that haue been lately sent amongst vs) rather to giue vs warning, and admonition not to offend him so hereafter then to powre downe his heauy and intollerable scourges for our former trespasses.

A PRAYER.

THose punishments, and greater then these, O Lord, haue our great and crying sins deserved, for our sins are many in number, & haie nous in nature, they are like a huge burthen too heauy for vs to beare, yea O Lord they haue mounted vp to the high heauen, where thy holy Maiesty doest dwell, & where thou doest most cleerely shew thy selfe, ther they haue cried lowd & shrill, for wrath and vengeance against vs, and against our Land, in so much that they haue drawne downe too many weeping teares from the clouds, which in ynseasonable maner haue watered the earth: Lord grant that our hard-hearts may be mollified and softened, by the gracious working of thy holy spirit, that we may mourne and lament for our personal sins which we haue comitted against thee, and also for the sins of the land, beseeching thee for Iesus Christs sake to haue mercy vpon vs, and
in

A Prayer:

in him to turne thy fauourable countenance towards vs, and instead of punishment, powre downe thy blessings vpon vs; grant vs true and vnfeined repentance for our sinnes, and renew a right spirit within vs, for if these fatherly chastisements of thine do not make vs better, and to come neerer vnto thee, then thou wilt bring more grievous punishments vpon vs; yea Lord, it may be such as shall make all eares to tingle, and euery heart to ache that shall heare and see them. Our want of loue to the Gospell, our want of zeale for thy glorie is the chiefe cause of this our punishment, for Lord we are a froward and crooked generation, and we haue made our hearts and our faces harder then stones, and we haue refused to returne vnto thee, we are cold in religion and faithlesse in thee, so that if Christ should now come to iudgement, hee should scarce finde faith vpon the earth. Bless our King, our Queene, our Prince and people, and al sorts & degrees from the highest to the lowest, and grant, good Father, that all of vs may bee so turned to thee with all our hearts, mind and strength, that thou maist still continue our gracious good God, bestowing vpon vs the blessings of this life, and also of the life to come, which is chiefest to bee desired: turne away from vs the boisterous and tempestuous weather, and giue to vs the sweet sun-shine of grace and mercy: This grant for Iesus Christ sake our Lord and Sauiour, *Amen.*

FINIS.